

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 170271
ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: AF/C: REGRIBBIN:LA

APPROVED BY: AF/C:EMARKS

-----020585 211858Z /47

R 211601Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 170271

FOR SIETZ

FOLLOWING REPEAT BANGUI 1520 TO SECSTATE INFO NAIROBI PARIS

YAOUNDE JUL 20

QUOTECONFIDENTIAL BANGUI 1520

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, CT, US

SUBJ: DETENTION OF WESTERN HOURNALISTS

REF: BANGUI 1511

1. SECRETARY GENERAL OF MINISTRY OF INTERIOR TOLD CHARGE JULY 20
THAT THE MATTER OF THE JOURNALISTS WAS BEING HANDLED AT HIGHEST
LEVEL OF
GOVERNMENT AND THAT HE WAS NOT AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS IT.
WHEN CHARGE PRESSSED FOR A COMMENT ON THE CONDITION OF THE JOUR-
LIST AND MENTIONED THE RUMOR OF BEATINGS
THE SECRETARY GENERAL
SAID THAT, WHILE HE COULD NOT COMMENT OFFICIALLY IT WAS CLEAR
THAT SUCH ACTION WOULD NOT BE IN THE INTEREST OF HIS GOVERNMENT
GIVEN THE PROXIMITY OF THE CORONATION. HE LATER ADDED THAT
THE CHARGE WOULD DO WELL TO CAST DOUBT ON SUCH RUMORS.

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2. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT AN AFRICAN JOURNALIST WORKING FOR JEUNE
AFRIQUE WHO ARRIVED OVER THE WEEKEND HAS BEEN DETAINED BY THE
POLICE. WHILE WE HAVE NO WAY OF CHECKING THIS REPORT, IT APPEARS
UNLIKELY THAT IT IS A GARBLED VERSION OF THE DETENTION OF THE AP
AND WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENTS.
SMITH UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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